

CITY OF THE DEAD

Wonders of Fatehpur Sikri, in Center of Hindustan.

City of Untrodden Streets Which for Nearly Four Centuries Has Been Deserted by all Save the Jackal and the Leopard.

London.—To the south of Agra, in the center of Hindustan, lies the great city of Fatehpur Sikri, a city of untrodden streets, which for nearly four centuries has been deserted by all save the jackal and the leopard and a few humble weavers who find refuge beneath its lofty walls, writes P. T. Eiherton in London Graphic. History has no parallel in the astounding collection of palaces and halls, courtyards, the whole created, one might say, on the spur of the moment, as the outcome of a kingly whim, and as suddenly deserted. The city of Fatehpur Sikri stands, as it was left, in a state of astonishing preservation.

Mohammedan history tells us that the creation of Fatehpur Sikri was due to the prophecy of a saint. The Emperor Akbar, who ruled in India in the sixteenth century, halted on the site of the city when returning from his great conquests of western India. To interview the saint in question and secure his prayers for a son and heir, Akbar being then childless. The advice of the saint was to the effect that the emperor send for his so-called Portuguese Christian wife to reside at Fatehpur. This was done, and in due course a son was born to Akbar, who afterwards became the Emperor Jahangir. It is said, however, that the child may have been one substituted by the saint for a royal infant that was still-born. To commemorate the birth Akbar caused the great city to be erected, and it is a lasting memorial to the genius of its builder and the skill displayed in the carving and decoration of its numerous palaces. Its lofty walls extend for seven miles, and the city itself stands upon a commanding range of hills, approach thereto being by seven different gateways. The photographs show what a beautiful city it was, and interest in it was enhanced by the mystery which surrounds it. All that is known is that it was occupied for a few years, and then abandoned, the court being removed to Agra.

There are buildings innumerable in this weird city of the dead, among the most remarkable being the Panch Mahal, a five-storied structure, which stands unrivaled, since every one of the countless columns on which its tiers are supported is of a different design.

To achieve this unique object it is said that each column was entrusted



The Great Gate of Victory, Built by Akbar.

to a separate carver, who was thus given an opportunity of displaying his skill, and many are the exquisite results of their work. The glory of Fatehpur Sikri is the great Gate of Victory, the highest and grandest of its kind in India, towering 130 feet above the ground level, and built by Akbar after his conquest of southern India.

Beneath the southern battlements of the city is the Hilar, or Deer tower, standing 70 feet in height, and studded with elephants' tusks carved out of pure white stone. From the summit of this shooting stand, the emperor picked off the game which had been driven in from the surrounding jungles by a vast army of beaters. Another of the gems of Fatehpur is the well near the Gate of Victory. It is 90 feet in diameter, and from the walls above a man dives into it from a height of 100 feet, which must surely be one of the world's highest plunges.

Throughout the city are terraces and towers, throne rooms and gardens, palaces and many-acre courtyards, all deserted and untrodden, and invested with a sense of loneliness and mystery such as surrounds no other spot in the world.

Takes Splinters From Man's Body.

Philadelphia.—Physicians at St. Agnes' hospital have removed 250 splinters from the body of John Tomncon, who gathered the "wood" when he was thrown from a motorcycle while racing on a board track. There are 50 more splinters to be removed.

Feed Workmen on Chicken.

Taft, Cal.—Helping to increase the efficiency of their two hundred laborers so as to be able to complete a \$750,000 contract in the time specified, the Virginia Pipe Line Contracting company will feed its workmen on chicken three times a week.

HEARING ON CLASSIFICATION.

State Railway Will Hear Protest of Oil Shippers.

The state railway commission is holding a hearing on classification. Twice a year the commission meets to hear complaints on classification and to make changes on its own motion. The Blau gas company, at Omaha, will ask for a new classification for metal holders in which gas is shipped. A change in the rating of oil is proposed by the commission. At present oil is rated at 70 per cent of fourth-class. Order No. 19, which the commission proposes to issue reduces all classes. The commission now proposes to rate oil at fourth class. This may increase the rate 10 per cent and oil shippers will be present to protest. The commission will give them a hearing and then decide the matter.

Secretary of State Wait has ruled that the writing in of candidate's names on the primary ballot is permissible. He has so replied to a letter from County Clerk E. Barkhurst of Bartlett. The writing in of names on the general election ballot in November is permitted by the general election laws, and the primary law says the general election laws shall apply to the primaries when possible. The primary law also provides for a blank line under the names of candidates in each division. This blank is for the accommodation of voters who desire to vote for some person who has not paid a fee and obtained a place on the primary ballot in the usual way.

State Food Commissioner Harman held another meeting with creamery men for the purpose of inducing operators of creameries to buy cream according to grade and not according to weight. Governor Morehead addressed the meeting. The creamery men agreed to try the new method for one month, beginning August 1, without changing the price. This trial will educate operators in methods of grading cream and if it is found satisfactory the method will be continued and different prices will be paid in accordance with quality and grade.

The railway commission has given permission to the Omaha & Southern Interurban railway company to publish a schedule of express charges applying between South Omaha, Fort Crook and immediate stations. Included in the schedule which the road is given permission to publish is a charge of 15 cents for a case of beer, 15 cents for a pony keg, 20 cents for a quarter barrel of beer, and 35 cents for a half barrel, 20 cents for trunks, 12 cents for a one-gallon tub of ice cream and 40 cents for a five-gallon tub.

Railway Commissioners Clarke, Hall and Taylor have forwarded a request to the Interstate commerce commission asking that body to suspend the proposed increase of rates on emigrant moveables which the Northwestern railroad company intends to apply from Nickerson to Long Pine, Snyder to Humphrey and Norfolk to Hadar in Nebraska to points on its line in Iowa, Illinois and Minnesota. The state commission asks the interstate commerce commission to grant a hearing on the proposed increase.

Work on the new county farm building is progressing rapidly. Excavation has been completed and the walls of the basement finished. The work is to be pushed and the part for which the contract has been let completed by early fall. It is considered certain that the slight levy to be asked by the commissioners for completing the building will be voted and the contract for the remainder of the structure will be let as soon as this is done.

State Food Commissioner Harman has declined to permit a Sioux City firm to brand several kinds of food products with the words, "First Prize." He holds that such a label or brand is misleading to the purchaser or consumer on the ground that the label does not show when or where a first prize was awarded on the food so labeled, and for the further reason that it never did take first prize.

ments, the names of all republican state candidates and blank sections where the voter can write in the name of a candidate for congress and state senators and representatives. The sample will be sent to county clerks, who will add space in the form of blank lines for county and local tickets. A voter must depend upon his memory for the names of candidates.

Within the week two Douglas county saloon damage suits have been filed in the district court of Lancaster county and in the ordinary course of events the taxpayers of this county will be called upon at the fall term of court to bear the heavy expense of trying the same, notwithstanding the fact that the alleged causes of action arose in South Omaha.

State Food Commissioner Harman announces that beginning August 3 all cream purchased in Nebraska will be bought according to grade. One month's trial of the new method will be had. No difference in price for first or second grades will be paid until it is demonstrated that the new method is advantageous. Mr. Harman says under the present system cream producer receives the same price for his cream whether he takes care of it properly or improperly. This, he says, is neither equitable, just nor fair.



TEACHING AND ILLUSTRATING THE WORD "SMELL"



WHEN the annual field games and exercises of the Parker Practise school, Chicago, were taking place a few days ago, a feature that brought unusual long and loud applause from the throng of visitors crowding the school campus was a series of fancy dances and drills by several classes of boys and girls ranging in age from six to sixteen years. A close observer might have noticed that as the children went through the various graceful evolutions, in perfect time with the playing of a piano, they kept their eyes turned as much as their wheelings and sways would permit in the direction of a young woman, who with slight motions of her hand seemed to be directing them in their movements. The reason for this was not apparent, since those who dance to music usually do not need any such form of guidance.

HOW THE DEAF SEE SOUNDS

By ROBERT H. MOULTON



TEACHING A DEAF CHILD TO MAKE SOUND OF LETTER "A"



ILLUSTRATING WITH LIGHTED CANDLE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SOUNDS "P" and "B"



COMBINING PLAY WITH INSTRUCTION



CONNECTING PRONUNCIATION OF THE SOUND "S" IN PLANTS

But when inquiries were made it developed the surprising fact that not one of these children could hear the playing of the piano; that they were, indeed, totally deaf, and depended upon the slight assistance given them by their teacher to go through the different maneuvers with the same precision that would mark the movements of hearing children.

Probably this fact alone would have caused the visitor sufficient wonder, but he would have been considerably more astonished a little later if he had chanced to run across a group of the same children laughing and chatting together as merrily and naturally as if they had never known what it was to be denied the blessed privilege of perfect hearing. Surely the age of miracles must have arrived when the dumb can be made to speak and the deaf to hear with their eyes!

But the women who have brought about these seemingly impossible things do not regard them as either miraculous or especially wonderful. They think it is the most natural thing in the world that little deaf children should be taught to speak and to read the speech of others. They tell you, moreover, that the only way in which such children should be instructed is by the modern oral system, and that the ancient method of signs and finger spelling is quite as much a relic of barbarism as the practise of running a ring through the nose to beautify one's features.

This may sound almost unbelievable to those whose only idea of a deaf person is one who is totally devoid of the power of speech and who must depend upon the sign language to communicate his thoughts to others. Fifty years ago a person would have been looked upon as a dreamer, or worse, if he had insisted that children born deaf could be and should be taught to speak. Even today the general impression prevails that a person who becomes deaf in infancy must necessarily also be dumb during the whole of his life, and, strangely enough, this lack of power to express one's self in spoken language is ascribed to some defect in the organs of speech. Both of these conclusions are entirely wrong. It has been demonstrated beyond all doubt that practically every deaf child has perfect organs of speech at birth, and that it is a very rare occurrence when a deaf person remains mute for any other reason save the lack of training which a hearing child receives through its ears.

If you should go to the Parker Practise school any fine morning you would probably see on the broad lawn in front of the school various groups of children at play under the watchful eyes of their teachers. But it is not likely that your attention would be attracted to any particular group because of anything unusual in their manner of addressing their teacher or one another; all are romping, laughing and shouting in the fulness of their childish delight. Yet the chances are that some of these children have never in all their years heard the sound of a voice.

Entering the school you might go from room to room and not discover for quite a while that there was anything different in the manner of instructing the pupils in one from those in another. In some of them, however, you would find the same little tots, who cannot hear, that you passed on the lawn. If their eyes happened

to be turned away from the visitor upon his entrance, their attention would not be diverted, since their organs of sight have to perform the duty of the useless ears. Should they see the newcomer, however, they will smile an affectionate welcome, then direct their gaze once more to the lips of their teacher. It is this concentration of gaze which first betrays their physical handicap. All the knowledge they receive must come through the sense of sight, and so their eyes are ever on the alert to catch the smallest movement of their teacher's lips.

The oral-deaf department of the Parker Practise school is under the direction of Miss Mary McCowen, the founder of the McCowen Oral School for Young Deaf Children. For more than thirteen years this school carried on the pioneer work for the deaf in Chicago, and since 1896, when speech classes were organized in the public schools, has supplemented that work by continuing to teach the very young children. There are eight classes, totaling about ninety pupils, under charge of Miss McCowen and her assistants, the children ranging in age from five to sixteen years.

The caller probably will be ushered into one of the kindergarten classes. Here he will find ten or a dozen contented little scholars seated in baby chairs about a low table. It is likely they will be counting colored sticks, or making patterns with them, murmuring all the while the names of the figures they are forming. The teacher talks busily and naturally to the children, just as if they could hear, no other form of communication than spoken language ever being employed. This is necessary in order to so develop the brains of the children that they shall think and express themselves in spoken language as naturally and unconsciously as hearing children.

Two not unreasonable questions may be asked by anyone whose notice is called to this work—how and why do these children reproduce the speech they never hear? And second, what does it do for the children when they are grown?

Let us watch one of the baby classes. The program suddenly changes from the play with the colored sticks and blocks. The teacher, leaning forward, arrests the attention of one of her pupils, enunciating with perfect articulation some simple word. Instantly the child's expression crystallizes to reveal pure concentration of thought. All the intelligence of the childish mentality is focused through the eyes on the teacher's lips. Then gradually there germinates in his mind a sense of the mental action that evoked the motions of her lips and tongue as she spoke, and this sense blooms into an imitation of the act, accompanied by the corresponding sound. If this is not correct the teacher repeats the word and illustrates to the child just how it should be made. Usually he gets it more and more perfect each time, and when the lesson is finished he returns to his play, smiling from pure joy in the intellectual exercise.

Only the simplest words are given for the child to reproduce at first. These are really not words at all, but mere sounds. When individual sounds are mastered they are then combined to form words. For example, suppose the child has learned to make the sounds of the vowel "a" (ah) and the consonant m. The teacher now places

the child's hand upon her throat, and the child, all eagerness, prepares to imitate her. First she begins with the sound of "a" and, while still uttering it, gently closes her lips, but without interrupting the sound. This action causes the sound of "m" to follow "a" and the result is the word "am." When the little scholar is made to understand to what the word applies he is usually so delighted that he needs no urging to repeat it over and over until he has it just right. Sometimes the positions may be excellent, but the sounding weak. The teacher will then direct the child to use his voice. The meaning of this direction and the way of obeying it are taught in the very beginning of the work by holding the child's hand upon the teacher's throat and chest while she makes utterance of a sound. His hand is then applied to his own throat and chest until he has produced similar vibrations. All the while, of course, he is watching his teacher's lips, and the direction is repeated until he has learned its meaning.

The power to distinguish differences of vibration by touch is a very important thing, for it is the child's chief guide in modifying his own voice later—in raising it if it is too deep, or lowering it if it is too shrill. Exercises bearing upon this are conducted with musical instruments such as the guitar and piano, and then applied to the vibrations as felt in the chest, head and throat. The teacher first strikes a low note and the child, watching, feels the vibration. Then she strikes a high note and calls his attention to the difference. Next she places his hand upon her throat while she sings low and high notes alternately, and in time he acquires the ability to recognize the difference in tone by touch.

The making of aspirant sounds, requiring the forcible exhalation of breath, such as "p," is explained by using a feather or lighted candle. The expulsion of breath blows the feather away or causes the flame of the candle to flicker. The difference between "p" and "b," which have the same visible motions, but not the same sound, is illustrated in a similar manner. In the case of "p" we simply close the lips, compress the air in the mouth and then allow it to escape in a little voiceless puff. But with "b" while the lips are closed and opened in exactly the same way, the voice is brought into use and this lessens the force of the breath as it leaves the mouth. Guttural sounds like "k" and "g," being formed at the back of the tongue, are difficult to acquire, but the use of the mirror is of particular assistance in teaching the child the correct positions for the sounds of these letters.

Speech-reading, which is the ability to understand spoken language by watching the speech movements on the speaker's face, goes side by side with the teaching of speech. From the first hour the child is taught to watch his teacher's lips and to attach a meaning to all their movements, and he learns to interpret spoken language with his eyes as the hearing child does with his ears, without knowing the how or why of it.

The second question—that as to what speech does for the deaf children when they are grown up—is not difficult to meet. In the first place it puts them on a more equal footing with hearing children both in their social and business life. Very few hearing people care to take the trouble to learn the sign language, or finger spelling, just for the purpose of conversing with one or two persons, and a system of written communication is always slow and laborious. For this reason the deaf child who cannot speak is always at a great disadvantage when attempting to mingle with his more fortunate brothers. He must confine his activities largely to that sphere in which his peculiar form of communication is understood, and this sphere is exceedingly small, comparatively speaking. But with speech at his command he finds a thousand avenues of usefulness and endeavor, of which he formerly knew nothing, opened to him.